



17 August 2020

Alan Thompson
fyi-request-13380-eb3faa40@requests.fyi.org.nz

Reference: OIA-2020/21-0072

Dear Mr Thompson

Official Information Act request relating to a formal inquiry into the eruption on Whakaari/White Island referenced in CAB-19-MIN-0692

Thank you for your request made under the Official Information Act 1982 (the Act), received on 10 August 2020. You requested:

“Thank you for the response to my OIA Request but you have not addressed the information that I requested. You advised that “No decision on the proposal had been made” and therefore the information I requested did not exist. I did not ask for information relating to whether a decision had been made, I requested the documentation that related to the decision for Cabinet to consider in relation to a formal inquiry as referred to in Cabinet Minute Item 5. This is likely to have included some discussion and a recommendation to Cabinet. I believe that you have two options then: 1. To provide the documentation as presented back to Cabinet in the New Year relating to a decision re a formal inquiry (whether or not they made any decision); or 2. To advise that no information or recommendation was presented to Cabinet as per Item 5 and therefore the documentation does not exist (for that reason). Can you please review your response and advise in accordance with either 1. or 2. as above.”

I believe that the information you have requested is more closely connected to the functions of the Prime Minister, Rt Hon Jacinda Ardern. Accordingly, I have decided under section 14(b)(ii) of the Act to transfer your request to the Prime Minister.

The Prime Minister has 20 working days from receipt of this transfer to make a decision on your request.

Yours sincerely

Sarah Corbett
Manager, Ministerial and Legal Services